

NEWS BULLETIN

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GLOBAL

REDUCING EMISSIONS & INCREASING FOOD SECURITY - Investment in sustainable agriculture must be increased on a massive scale not only to avoid widespread hunger, but to combat the effects of global warming, according to a report by a group of leading scientists. "If you intensify agriculture to produce more food while producing less, greenhouse gas emissions, then you deliver benefits in terms of climate change as well, reducing emissions and increasing food security in vulnerable regions," said the Britain's chief scientific adviser, and one of the authors of the report.

POVERTY - A sharp slowdown in world growth would increase the risk of recession in poorer countries, whose budgets have barely recovered from the last economic slump just two years ago, the IMF has said.

DEVELOPMENT - The convergence of leading countries from the global South - China, India, Brazil and South Africa, among others - to assist the poorest countries in sub-Saharan Africa and elsewhere constitutes a new "dynamic" in the emerging global economic partnerships, says the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

MALARIA - A vaccine or new drugs against malaria could be developed, British scientists said, after they made a critical discovery about the way the most deadly species of malaria parasite invades human red blood cells.

AFRICA

BURKINA FASO - The government is attempting for the first time to implement a nationwide dry-season agricultural campaign to counteract possible food insecurity in areas that received poor or erratic rainfall this year.

SOMALIA - The frequent looting of relief aid at distribution centres in Mogadishu by local or state security agents seriously undermines efforts to help hundreds of thousands of people, many of whom have fled areas of Somalia in a state of famine, according to officials and aid workers.

ASIA

INDIA - Women's and children's rights activists are sounding the alarm over the abuse of young girls as part of a growing trend for bridal slavery. Young girls are sold into marriage for as little as \$120, then forced to work as day laborers and sex slaves to the men who purchase them.

THAILAND - Thousands of Thais - with noses pinched and fingers crossed - are tossing mud balls into fetid flood water, in the hope of improving the quality of stagnant water following weeks of flooding.

WFWO's Communications Team